

Air Force Prime Time, a weekly news magazine for and about airmen stationed overseas, airs Thursdays at 8:25 p.m. Central European Time on AFN television. In this

week's edition, destroying weapons of war in Bosnia: RAF Fairford's revamped runway opens: w First Lady visits Aviano AB, Italy; passing the Air Force torch and more.

News briefs

Phase II

ROYAL AIR FORCE LAKENHEATH,

England - The 52nd Fighter Wing arrived here in force as part of a U.S. Air Forces in Europe Inspector General directed evaluation.

After completion of their Phase I July 19, the wing transitioned to a combat employment

Col. Greg Ihde, 52nd FW commander, had high praise for the support received from the men and women of the Liberty Wing

"The support received has been outstanding in all areas," he said.

Team Eifel is preparing for their North Atlantic Treaty Organization Tactical Evaluation, which will be held here in October.

Change of command

Lt. Col. Christopher Moore assumes command of the 52nd Communications Squadron during a ceremony at 2 p.m. today at the Airman's Memorial Park.

Moore comes to Spangdahlem Air Base from the U.S. Air Force Communication and Information Resources Division in the Pentagon.

Outgoing commander Lt. Col. Frank K. Brooks Jr. heads to the Air Force Communication Agency at Scott Air Force

A reception follows the ceremony in the Spang Club. For more information, call 2nd Lt. Ross Savedra at 452-6010 or 452-2925.

TRICARE

Visit the TRICARE booth from noon to 4 p.m. Wednesday at the Bitburg Annex Commissary for benefit information and enrollment applications. Call Staff Sgt. Sanee-Ann O'Brien-Thomas at 452-3102 for details.

Clinic closure

The family practice clinic, including immunizations and outpatient records, closes

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Vol. 35, Issue 25

Spangdahlem Air Base, Germany



Staff Sgt. Todd Murray, 117th Air Refueling Wing boom operator, Alabama Air National Guard, shows Airman 1st Class Erich Warren, 52nd Communcations Squadron, how boom controls work while aboard a KC-135

Wing family members fly high with Alabama National Guard

By Staff Sgt. Pamela Popee 117th Air Refueling Wing, Alabama Air National Guard

Dozens of military family members here recently got the unique opportunity to fly on a KC-135R and witness mid-air refueling courtesy of the 117th Air Refueling Wing of the Alabama Air National Guard

The 117th Air Refueling Wing from the Alabama Air National Guard will be here until Saturday performing refueling missions and to support the 52nd Fighter Wing during their Operational Readiness Inspection. The 117th ARW arrived July 15 with two planes and about 75 members who have provided extra manpower in logistics, operations, supply, maintenance, civil engineer, medical, transportation and financial management offices on base

Col. Kirk Tyree, 117th ARW Commander, offered the incentive flights to Col. Greg Ihde, 52nd FW commander. Ihde then contacted his squadron commanders and gave them the opportunity to nominate unit members and their family members for the incentive rides. Because of time constraints due to last week's exercise, many military members weren't

able to participate in the incentive rides, but several family members, including Bree Krosschell, sister of 22nd Fighter Squadron F-16 pilot Capt. Chris Krosschell, took the opportunity to see how aerial refueling is done.

"I felt like a kid in a candy store!" Krosschell said to Capt. Mike Warren, 117th ARW co-pilot, when he asked if she enjoyed the flight. "The ride was pretty sweet and I could not believe it was real - the plane was so close."

The incentive ride included a tour of the aircraft and the opportunity to sit in the cockpit while taking off and later during landing. While aerial refueling took place, participants rotated in and out of the boom pod to see how the aircraft met up with the refueler and how fuel is transferred.

Aircrew members said they enjoyed answering questions about the aircraft, their jobs and the military.

Krosschell said watching aerial refueling is an opportunity she'll never forget. She suggests those who get the chance to do the same should bring a warm jacket because it gets chilly in the boom pod and plenty of film to record the memorable

AFN gains exclusive news and sports channels

RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, Germany -

Some AFN Europe television viewers, including those in the Eifel region, will see extra channels appear on their TV menus in the near future as the American Forces Television and Radio Service (AFRTS) broadcast center reorganizes its channel

The current NewSport channel will split into two separate channels, one all-news and the other all -sports, known as "AFN News" and "AFN Sports." AFN will add this service to the television lineup at 1 a.m. Central European Time Tuesday August 7.

"News junkies will be watching a lot more AFN Television," AFN Europe Public Affairs Officer Roger Williams adds. The newly created AFN News channel will offer continuous stateside news, international news and analysis from CBS, NBC, ABC, CNN,

PBS, MSNBC, Fox News and other news sources. Viewers will also see a variety of new information and analysis programs not currently offered.

The staff at the AFRTS Broadcast Center at March Air Reserve Base, California has spent months negotiating with the networks and show producers for program rights.

"AFN News will begin offering many new programs we've not been able to fit into the

NewSport schedule," adds Williams. Fox News Live, Hard Ball with Chris Matthews, Hannity and Colmes, Burden of Proof, CNN International News, MSNBC Investigates. Greenfield At Large, Your World with Neil Cavuto, The Edge With Paula Zahn, CNN dot Com and other new shows will air at various times on weekdays and weekends. These new



(Editor's Note: SPANGDAHLEM under Construction is a periodic update of projects around the base. The goal is to inform people of various facility upgrades, road construction, detours renovations and more, and how it impacts people who live and work on base. Information for the column is provided by members of the 52nd Civil Engineer Squadron.)

Project: Continued replacement of Spangdahlem Air Base's existing water distribution system.

Location: Along Arnold Boulevard near the base main exchange, continuing toward the main gate and past the filling station.

Start date: October 2000 Completion date: July 2003

Cost: About 16 million DM funded by the U.S., NATO and Rhein-Main initiative

Current impact: Repaving the road from Spangdahlem AB housing building 412 to the base middle school takes place Monday through Aug. 7. Other repaving projects take place on Arnold Boulevard from building 125 to 103 and to the commissary parking lot Aug. 7-21.

People are urged to drive cautiously around construction sites and to use Perimeter Road as an alternate route as often as possible until construction is complete.

Accidents

By Susanne Esch 52nd Security Forces Squadron

There were 22 minor and two major accidents involving Americans in the Eifel region last week.

One of the minor accidents occurred in Bitburg. Investigation revealed the emergency brake on a Jeep failed and the Jeep rolled back and struck a German's car. German Polizei arrived on scene and cited the Jeep driver 20 DM for faulty equipment. The estimated cost to repair the damage was \$45.00.

Thursday afternoon, an American driver was involved in a major accident on B-50, approx 30 minutes from Bernkastel. The driver approached a stop sign at a four-way intersection, applied the brakes, and they failed to engage. The vehicle, a 1990 Opel, crossed over a median into the left lane, collided with a German National's vehicle, and came to rest in a nearby field. The Opel sustained disabling damage to the entire vehicle, with estimated repair costs of \$1800.

Those two accidents are good examples to make sure you keep your car in good working order by conducting periodic maintenance and driver inspections. Use a proactive approach in conducting safety checks.

Eleven of the minor accidents resulted from driver inattention and failing to maintain awareness in parking lots. One related problem involves drivers who are still using cell phones while operating their vehicle.

On April 1, the traffic law in Germany changed to help police reduce this hazardous practice. Current German law states the vehicle operators may no longer use mobile or cellular phones while driving if they have to pick up or hold a receiver or the telephone itself. Violators are subject to a 60 DM fine. Hands-off devices or headsets are authorized under the same provisions and if hearing is not reduced; therefore, phone systems with only one earphone are authorized.

AFN =

Continued from Page 1

programs will join the lineup that already includes healthy doses of CNN Headline News, 48 Hours, Good Morning America, CBS Sunday Morning and the others on the current NewSport channel.

Sports fans will get more variety in stateside and international sports events without interruptions.

"If you want the latest scores, highlights or breaking sports news, AFN Sports will be your uninterrupted connection," adds Williams. AFN Sports will also feature more military service academy events, expanded sports analysis programs and expanded coverage of some of the not-so-mainstreamsports events, including AMA Motocross, ISKA Kickboxing, WNBA, Tennis Masters Series, Track and Field, Boxing, IROC and IRL Racing.

Customers who only receive the one broadcast channel will

continue to see the major sporting events on the AFN Europe channel. Viewers using the AFRTS satellite decoder, and most base housing residents, will have access to the new channels.

Lieutenant Colonel Michael Edrington, AFN Europe Commander is excited about the added channels, saying "this has been on the drawing board for a long time and now customers will have one dedicated news channel and one channel dedicated to sports. Customers have wanted it and now we're ready to give it to them. These new channels help us bring more of America to the audience."

The switchover begins at 1 a.m. in Europe August 7. AFN technicians will make the adjustments for the added services and that transition could take two hours to complete. AFN technicians are on duty around the clock to receive any television outage reports. The trouble desk serving Europe is DSN 329-4444 or Germany commercial at 06915-688444.

The new AFN channels look like this: Channel #1-AFN Sports (currently NewSport), Channel #2- AFN Europe/Atlantic, Channel #3-Spectrum, Channel #4-AFN Pacific, Channel #5-AFN News, Channel #6-AFN Korea and Channel #5 (currently the Program Guide channel) moves to Channel #7. Channel designations may vary for Power Vu and TKS cable customers.

The launch of the new channels is a massive worldwide technological undertaking and some cable customers will notice that the Program Guide channel will be absent for a three to four month period. Channel surfers will also notice that the Electronic Program Guide will be discontinued on August 7 to free up some digital bandwidth for the additional services.

Expansion of AFN services doesn't end there. In 2002, AFN will also split the current Spectrum channel offering more variety. (USAFE News Service)

Briefs =

Continued from Page 1

at 2:30 p.m. today for a mandatory commander's call as well as the afternoon of Aug. 9 for training. Call 452-8142 for more information.

Estate claims

■Col. Greg Ihde, 52nd Fighter Wing commander, regretfully announces the death of Master Sgt. Charles Sizemore who died in the U.S. July 9. Sizemore was assigned to the 52nd Equipment Maintenance Squadron. Anyone owing or having claims against Sizemore's estate should call 2nd Lt. Morgan Evans, summary court officer, at 452-6641.

Greenery recycling

Spangdahlem Air Base institutes a compost contract Wednesday. Containers marked, "Green waste only," will be available for grass and shrub clippings, tree limbs and dead flowers at Spangdahlem AB and Bitburg Annex recycling centers. Call the 52nd Civil Engineer Squadron

Environmental Flight at 452-5124 for more information.

Star Card interest rate drops

For the sixth time this year, Military Star cardholders benefit from yet another drop in the card's interest rate.

With the latest announcement by the Federal Reserve, key interest rates were lowered by a quarter percent. As a result, the Military Star card is reducing its interest rate from 11.75 percent to 11.50 percent, effective Wednesday.

The interest rate on the Military star card has dropped nearly 3 percent since January and is at its lowest point since the card was introduced in September 2000.

The new rate doesn't apply to Military Clothing Plans, special promotions already in existence, or other special programs that may offer reduced rates such as reduced interest for Joint Chiefs of Staff-directed orders.

The Military Star card is accepted at all AAFES, NEXCOM, MCX and Coast Guard

exchanges, including catalog and military clothing stores operated by AAFES and Marine Corps exchanges. (AAFES Public Affairs Office)

Longer gas station hours

Spangdahlem Air Base's gas station starts a 90-day expanded hours test, beginning Wednesday. The facility will operate 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Sunday, according to Stan McGhee, AAFES manager. Depending upon use, McGhee may extend the hours even further.

In addition, he said eventually AAFES stations in the Eifel would be equipped with "swipe" cards to replace gas coupons. When this happens, McGhee said gas would be available 24 hours a day. No date has been firmly established yet for the installation of swipe cards.

Finance closure

Accounting and finance closes Thursday for an official function. For emergencies,

call 0160-8809936 or 0160-8809937.

Bank hours limited

All area Community Bank branches close early Aug. 8 for staff training. The Spangdahlem AB branch closes at 12:30 p.m. and the Bitburg Annex branch closes at noon.

Munitions inventory

The munitions storage area suspends all transactions Sept. 4-30 to conduct a 100 percent stockpile inventory. During the inventory, only emergency requests submitted in accordance with directives will be processed. For more information, call Master Sgt. Robert Keyser at 452-6230.

Air Force Ball

The Company Grade Officer's Councilsponsored Air Force Ball takes place at 6:30 p.m. Sept. 7. This year's theme is "NATO and Spangdahlem Air Base United in Airpower." Tickets are available now by emailing Capt. Ratna Contractor.



ech. Sqt. Darrell

Almost there

Staff Sergeant Joseph Hester, 606th Squadron combat Control readiness resources NCOIC, struggles to close the tailgate on a M-925 truck Monday. The 5-ton vehicle was stuffed full of cooking equipment, camouflage support poles and many other items in preparation for the squadron's Summer Warrior Exercise deployment. This past Wednesday, more than 50 squadron vehicles convoyed to Kemel, Germany, for the exercise. The 606th ACS, along with the German 42nd Air Defense Unit, will train through Aug. 3. Exercise evaluations take place Monday through Wednesday. To add realism, the 81st Fighter Squadron provided aerial escort for the convoy. During the exercise, a simulated air attack of the 606th ACS's ground site will also take place.

Anonymous call leads to fugitive's arrest

Communications member accused of equipment theft nabbed using Internet tip

By Maj. Mike Richmond

Office of Special Investigations Public Affairs Office

A senior airman who spent a year and a half in fugitive status is behind bars in Luxembourg today after being arrested Monday by the Luxembourg National Police.

The arrest of Senior Airman Douglas Saferite Jr. follows 17 months of coordination and cooperation between Det. 518 of the Air Force Office of Special Investigations, the Luxembourg police and the U.S. State Department.

Saferite disappeared from Spangdahlem Air Base, Germany, March 2, 2000, while awaiting a court-martial to face charges of stealing more than \$110,000 of computer equipment from the 52nd Communications Squadron. He was later court-martialed in absentia and sentenced to six years confinement, a dishonorable discharge, reduction to E-1, and a fine of \$14,565.

OSI Special Agent Lynn Stedge ran the case against Saferite from its inception, when a computer technician probing network anomalies on Spangdahlem AB in September 1999 discovered several necessary computer components were missing. Stedge's subsequent investigation indicated Saferite had stolen computer processors, two laptops, and other network components,

then sold many of the goods over the Internet.

Following Saferite's disappearance, Stedge led the manhunt and coordination efforts that ultimately brought the fugitive back into custody.

"I'm very happy about this," Stedge said. "It finally puts closure on this case. It's been a long couple of years."

Saferite was arrested at the home of his Luxembourg wife and child in the city of Garnich after surveillance a few days earlier confirmed his presence there. Stedge said he had suspected for more than a year that Saferite was hiding in the home, based on several clues unearthed in the investigation. But without more evidence than they had, Luxembourg laws prevented police from executing a search warrant.

"It was frustrating because he was just across the border, no more than an hour away, and yet we couldn't move on him because there's no (Status of Forces Agreement) between us and Luxembourg," Stedge said. "Even though he'd already been tried and convicted, we needed just a little bit more evidence to make it happen."

The evidence they needed dropped into their laps July 16 in the form of an anonymous phone call to the OSI Operations Center at Andrews AFB, Md. According to Stedge, the caller reported information about a series of Internet chat-room conversations he'd had with one of Saferite's relatives, who indicated Saferite was, indeed, residing in Garnich.

"That was enough to provide the final impetus for the Luxembourg police to run the surveillance operation," Stedge said, "and once they saw him they were able to make arrangements to go in and get him."

Stedge said he found it ironic that an Internet-related tip ultimately ended Saferite's life on the lam.

"He got caught stealing computers, and then computers ended up being his demise," Stedge said.

Luxembourg laws forbade OSI agents from participating in the arrest, so an international arrest warrant was obtained for the Luxembourg police through the U.S. State Department.

According to Det. 518's commander, Special Agent Todd Langenfeld, the Luxembourg police called him immediately following the arrest to report it had gone smoothly but that Saferite was "very emotional" when he realized he wasn't beyond the reach of the law.

"He was completely surprised," Langenfeld said. "He thought he was a free man and that we didn't have jurisdiction to come get him. But he was wrong."

Langenfeld praised the Luxembourg police for the operational security they maintained throughout the case.

"This took a lot of patience and a lot of persistence on everyone's part," Langenfeld said. "And when it finally came time to do the surveillance and make the actual arrest, they did an outstanding job. Any leaks or screw-ups at that point might have caused this guy to run again, which would have wiped out almost two years of work.

"Command officials here are pretty ecstatic about this," Langenfeld said. "It's been a long time coming, and we're all real happy that justice has been done."

DODDS takes steps to prevent violence

New initiatives focus on early detection, intervention, employing community involvement

By Vanessa Molina USAFE News Service

RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, Germany — The wake of school shootings in the United States during the past two years has prompted officials at the Department of Defense Dependent Schools to develop a new program aimed at preventing school violence.

The launch of the Safe Schools Program for the 2001-2002 school year is one of several initiatives DODDS officials are employing to create a safer environment for students

Schools across the nation have heightened security and refined violence awareness programs since the April 20, 1999, tragedy at Columbine High School, Colo. Two teens went on a shooting spree - killing 13 students and a teacher, and wounding 30 others in less than one hour during the

With the Safe Schools Program, DODDS hopes to prevent events like Columbine from happening again. The program relies on participation from military leaders, school officials, parents and students to identify problems that may threaten school safety and security.

"Our main focus is on intervention strategies, such as early detection of troubled students and staff, and removal of the individual from the school until the situation is resolved," said Gary Jones, DODDS in Europe safety and security officer.

"The program is tailored to the individual school by studying incidents of violence in the past, climate surveys and other methodology to identify and target likely threats," Jones said, "and key components to the program are community participation and crisis management."

Natasha Carlson, 15, a sophomore attending Kaiserslautern High School, said she feels DODDS schools are safer than most stateside schools. Her family spent four years at Mountain Home Air Force Base, Idaho, where she attended middle school before moving to Germany.

Carlson said stateside schools are too cliquey and students overseas are friendlier. Despite the idealistic conditions Carlson uses to describe Kaiserslautern, she still says there are certain groups that look down upon other students.

"In our school, the people who smoke and drink always make fun of the nerds ... kids shouldn't be afraid to come forward ... the mocking needs to stop and other students need to stick up for each other," she said.

Despite DODDS' track record on violence and safety, Jones said that can't discount the possibility that violence can occur. "Never think or say, 'It can't happen here.'

About \$17 million will be spent on security enhancements at DODDS facilities during the next five years. Jones said some of the money would be spent on installing fencing, lighting and other physical security enhancements.

Besides the physical changes, Jones said, parents still need



Rita Fino, Geilenkirchen Elementary School first-grade teacher, and Brian Lang review counting to 100 with the class. Although DODDS schools are considered safe based on past records, the defense department school system will implement the Safe Schools Program, promoting violence prevention.

to communicate with their children, teachers and school

"In most incidents of violence, there have been warning signs. We all have to get better at detecting and interpreting these signs," he added.

Deborah Booth, assistant DODDS liaison officer for U.S. Air Forces in Europe, agreed with Jones, saying, "School climate ratings are significantly impacted by strong parental involvement and visibility in the schools.

"When a school tragedy strikes, the entire community has to recover ... with the military lifestyle, we need all the help we can get."

Booth, who works at Ramstein Air Base, said she believes parents need to be involved in their children's lives and spend more time talking to them, "A conversation while folding clothes or doing the dishes can be an eye-opener.'

Martha Powers-Nosal and her husband, Frank Nosal, know from personal experience the importance of parental involvement

Their daughter, Kimberly, graduated last year from Ramstein High School after spending 13 years in the DODDS school system. As education technologists at the middle and elementary schools at Ramstein AB, her parents see the environment students deal with.

Powers-Nosal said it seems DODDS schools have a more

"I've been with DODDS for 25 years and had a child in DODDS for 13 years. I never once felt afraid for her or myself," she said.

Her husband agreed, but said he believed many parents feel they aren't wanted at the schools. "We need more programs to invite parents to the schools because they are always welcome.

Both parents believe the Columbine school shooting and others occur because parents don't pay enough attention to their children and the pleas for help.

"Instead of being critical toward them ... parents need to look at the situation from their (children's) point of view listen to them, and talk to them," Powers-Nosal said.

Dr. Susan Kelly, USAFE DODDS Liaison Officer, said, "looking beyond school facilities is another part of creating safer environments in schools.

"We need to consider student safety on school buses, and acknowledge unique aspects of the host nation environment as well as growing concern for force protection.

With antiterrorism, force protection and crisis management programs, school officials hope to mobilize the resources needed to provide counseling support to students and staff if a tragic event was to occur, Jones said.

"The best safe schools involve the entire community," he said. "We need to continue to challenge that partnership to be proactive and work aggressively on our intervention

aw closes gap for civilian offenders overseas

WASHINGTON — A new law on the books now provides U.S. federal law enforcement authorities jurisdiction over military civilians who commit certain types of

The Military Extraterritorial Jurisdiction Act of 2000 establishes federal jurisdiction over offenses committed overseas by U.S. civilians employed by or accompanying the armed forces as well as certain military service members. The act applies if the offense is punishable by confinement of one year or more had it been committed within the special maritime and territorial jurisdiction of the

The law applies to civilian employees, contractors and family members, and to service members who separate from active duty before being identified and prosecuted, according to Lt. Col. Douglas Anderson, with the Air Force judge advocate general's international and operations law division.

Previously, civilians could not be tried in the United States for many different offenses if they committed the offense overseas. If a civilian allegedly committed a federal crime that had no extraterritorial effect and the host nation chose not to prosecute, the United States had no authority to pursue criminal charges,

However, in 1995, Congress directed the DOD and justice to review and make recommendations to determine appropriate measures to extend criminal jurisdiction over civilians outside the United States

With the consent of the host nation and applicable international agreements, the act allows the United States to use federal authorities overseas to arrest and detain persons suspected of committing offenses and to telephonically conduct initial pretrial

Provided a federal magistrate orders it and the host nation agrees, "the act now authorizes

U.S. authorities to remove the person to the United States to be tried in federal district court when the host nation chooses not to prosecute,' Anderson said.

"Through this legislation, Congress has addressed a significant concern we have long faced at our overseas military installations," said Maj. Gen. William Moorman, Air Force judge advocate general.

"Commanders needed better tools to help maintain good order and discipline on their installations, including the need to ensure justice was applied as consistently as possible," Moorman said. (Air Force Print News)

Eifel Times

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Spangdahlem Air Base Germany

Editorial Staff

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Accessing Direct

The Direct Line program is a way to get answers to questions you still have after using your chain of command.

Direct Lines of general interest will be published in the Eifel Times and may be edited or paraphrased for brevity or clarity. Direct lines may be submitted via:

- ■DirectLine@spangdahlem
- ■Mailed to 52nd FW/PA, Unit 3680 Box 220, APO AE 09126
- ■To public affairs in building 23.
- ■Concerns may also be sent via fax to 452-5254.

Anonymous inputs are accepted. To receive a personal response you must include your name and phone number. Call the Eifel Times at 452-5244 for

Number of days since last DUI:

As of Thursday

12

You have a choice. Call Airmen Against Drunk Driving at 452-2233.

Viewpoint

Page 5 July 27, 2001

Force protection – don't leave home without it

By Maj. Janine Weber

a part of your daily life.

39th Services Squadron commander

INCIRLIK AIR BASE, Turkey — If you've been overseas any length of time, no doubt enhanced security practices have become

If you are anything like me, you take security seriously, make a good faith effort to follow security policies and directives, and you feel you have become pretty savvy about all those personal protective measures you learned in your Antiterrorism and Force Protection

Even though I've been feeling pretty comfortable with my personal security practices, I was chagrined to catch myself in a few faux pas while on vacation in Europe and Turkey recently.

I caught the Patriot Express to Rhein Main, and then switched over to the commercial terminal at Frankfurt to continue my travels. When checking in for my commercial flight, I realized I left conspicuous blue Air Mobility Command luggage tags on my suitcases and had just dragged them through what seemed to be 10 miles of the commercial terminal in full view of hundreds, maybe thousands of people, any one of whom could have been looking for a target of opportunity.

When I unpacked at my final destination, and

pulled my purse out of the suitcase what did I see but a prominently displayed stick-on label proclaiming my name, rank, unit and duty phone number - a requirement on base, but a conspicuous marker otherwise.

Fortunately, I had packed my purse and used a fanny pack while traveling, so I was able to remove the sticker before carrying the purse in public. A good catch, but I almost missed it.

gain, I found myself behind the game while waiting in line for the ferry on the Isle of Capri. I struck up a conversation with the nice American family ahead of me. We were innocently chatting about the great sites we had seen when suddenly the husband said, "We're visiting from Pennsylvania, how about you?"

I nearly blurted out to my new-found friends that I was in the Air Force stationed in Turkey and that I was visiting Italy on leave. At the last second, I swallowed those words and managed to come up with "I'm from Virginia" (my home state).

As a second lieutenant stationed abroad in the mid 80s, I had a prepared cover story at the tip of my tongue whenever I traveled to tell those friendly and curious co-travelers who had no need to know my personal history. I always said I was a Canadian student traveling in Europe.

I have too much gray hair to use that one anymore, but the near mistake in Capri reminded me to think through what I would say the next time strangers asked me personal questions.

Yes, I made a few mistakes on my trip, but I do think I was successful at blending in and being inconspicuous.

Unfortunately, others weren't doing so well in this area. Everywhere I went from Germany to Italy to Kiz Kalesi, I could pick out the Americans immediately.

They were the ones most likely wearing shorts or jeans with un-tucked shirts and baseball caps. They wore athletic clothing as street wear and walked about sipping open bottles of beer.

Europeans and Turks just don't seem to do that. Americans were also the ones most likely talking just a bit louder than the locals and relaxing by letting off some verbal steam about what's going on at work.

If there's a moral to this story, I guess it's that the summer travel season is upon us, and leaving the cocoon of a home base exposes us to higher security risks. Practicing good security during your travels can save your life as well as others. Keep operations security in mind, leave your nametag and job behind and enjoy the summer. (USAFE News Service)

Direct Lines

Re-enlistment bonus

Question: First of all, let me say my first sergeant and commander have been working on this situation for me; unfortunately, it's starting to drag out. Here's the situation:

I re-enlisted June 19. According to Air Force Instruction 36-2606 (paragraph 2.15.1), I'm supposed to get the initial installment of my re-enlistment bonus on the day I re-enlist; however, Spangdahlem Air Base's military personnel flight says it normally takes a minimum of 30 days to process the SRB information. In addition, the chief master sergeant there said no bonuses are being paid until the Air Force's new personnel system (MILMOD) is operational.

I called the Air Force Personnel Center last week and was told the Spangdahlem AB MPF can e-mail my re-enlistment information to Defense Finance and Accounting Service to have the initial payment processed; however, when I called the Spangdahlem AB MPF to relay the information, I was told (again) they couldn't do anything until MILMOD is operational.

It has been more than three weeks since I re-enlisted and I'm frustrated with this whole situation. I don't understand why AFPC is telling me I can get my bonus and the Spangdahlem AB MPF is telling me I can't. Especially if there is an AFI that states I should have already received it.

I know MILMOD isn't working the way it's supposed to, but after speaking with AFPC I also know there are other ways to get this accomplished.

I would appreciate it if you would work this at your level.

Answer: I understand you are frustrated with this process and apologize for any inconvenience you experienced. This has been an Air Force-wide problem, linked to the implementation of the new MILMOD system; however, the MPF is committed to solving those issues and helping Team Eifel customers as quickly as possible.

Air Force Instruction 36-2606 states you should receive an initial installment of your re-enlistment bonus on the day you re-enlist; however, because of system interface issues between the personnel system and the finance system, it can take between two weeks and 30 days to actually see this bonus in your account. Additionally, the process for

paying Selective Re-enlistment Bonuses is currently having system interface problems Air Force-wide between MILMOD and DFAS. It wasn't until July 12 that AFPC gave us permission to forward authorizations to DFAS to pay the SRB. This is why you were told by the MPF they couldn't send your authorization for your SRB to finance.

As of July 13, all 53 authorizations for SRBs for Team Eifel members have been released to DFAS for payment.

Tennis court conditions

Question: In the spring of 2000, I went to the Spangdahlem Air Base housing tennis courts to play. The courts were trashed. The first net was broken and the courts were filled with twigs and leaves from the winter, leaving the court rather dangerous to play on.

I talked to members of the gym staff about the problem. They said they have a hard time keeping the courts in order since children go in there and play on the nets. I suggested they fix the nets and then lock the door. A sign could be put on the door indicating keys could be checked out at the base gym.

It is now a year later. I went to the courts to play and found that the courts still need to be cleaned and repaired

Answer: Services squadron staff members are working hard to clean up and repair the tennis court. They already trimmed back the trees overhanging the courts and are waiting for new tennis poles to arrive. They also purchased new nets and will install them once the new poles are in place. They hope to have the new equipment delivered within a few weeks.

They also changed the way they care for the courts. Patrons will now reserve court time through the fitness center. The tennis courts have been locked to safeguard against vandalism and abuse that left the courts in their current condition. Further, the services squadron staff has added routine checks and cleaning of the courts to its checklists to ensure they remain in top condition. A new sign, clearly detailing court reservation and use procedures, contact phone numbers and facility hours will soon be installed for patrons information

Leisure

Movies

All movies play at 7 p.m. unless otherwise indicated.

Bitburg Castle

Lara Croft: Tomb Raider (PG-13)
Based on the video game and explorer Lara Croft's plundering exploits around the world.

Saturday

The Mummy Returns (PG-13, 4 p.m.)

The corpse of Imhotep is resurrected and is determined to fulfill its quest for immortality. But another force, even worse than Imhotep, has also been set loose in the world. When the two forces clash, the fate of the world hangs in

Lara Croft: Tomb Raider

Sunday

Lara Croft: Tomb Raider (4 p.m.)

The Forsaken (R)

Driving from California to Florida to deliver a vintage Mercedes and attend his sister's wedding, Sean does the one thing he wasn't supposed to do -- pick up a hitchhiker. As the miles pass by with his strange new co-pilot, Sean encounters dark and mysterious delays. His road trip is transformed into a surreal, blood-soaked nightmare.

Closed Monday and Tuesday

Wednesday

The Fast and the Furious (PG-13) Domenic is the leader of a street gang that races Japanese cars. He is under suspicion of stealing expensive electronic equipment. Meanwhile, an undercover police officer attempts to find the person responsible for stealing the equipment, and winds up falling for Domenic's younger sister

The Forsaken

Spangdahlem Skyline

The Fast and the Furious

Saturday The Fast and the Furious

Sunday

Bridget Jones' Diary (R)
Based on the international best-selling novel. Bridget decides it's time to take control of her life and to start keeping a diary. With a taste for adventure and an opinion on every subject, she's turning the page on a whole new

Monday

Bridget Jones' Diary

Tuesday

A Knight's Tale (PG-13)

"If a man believes enough, a man can do anything," a poor thatcher tells his son William. But in 14th century Europe, fortunes aren't made, they are predestined. Then, one day at a medieval jousting tournament, fate deals the unheralded William a shot that changes his

Closed Wednesday and Thursday

Beat the heat in Eifel pools

Soak in sun or just soak in one of seven local swim centers

By Iris Reiff

52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office

The following public pools can be found in the immediate neighborhood of the base and are usually open May through September.

Wittlich

Wittlich has the Vitellius pool. It's open now through mid-September and offers a swimming pool with eight 50-meter lanes for laps, two 1-meter diving boards, a 3-meter diving board, a 3-meter diving platform and a 5-meter diving board.

A "non-swimmers pool" has a 64-meter water slide, a waterfall and other water activities. The toddlers' pool has its own waterfall with a cave and more.

Facility hours are 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday, 7:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. weekends and holidays.

Entry fee is 5 DM for adults and 2.50 DM for youth up to age 18. Less expensive multiple ticket books are available. A booklet of 10 entry tickets is 45 DM for adults and 23 DM for children, while a booklet of 50 tickets is 150 DM for adults and 75 DM for

The facility is located a short distance off of B-50 before entering Wittlich from the direction of Spangdahlem Air Base. For more information, call 06571-6088.

Kordel

The Kordel pool is located in a scenic area surrounded by pine trees, between the towns of Daufenbach and Kordel.

It's open noon to 8 p.m. Mondays, 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, and 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Wednesday. It's also open 7:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. weekends and holidays.

Tickets are 5 DM for adults and 3 DM for youth ages 6 to 18. Entry is free for children up to age 6. Military members with a valid identification card pay 3 DM. Multiple ticket books cost less per hour and can be purchased at the center. Family cards cost 30

To get there, drive through Herforst and continue south toward Trier for about 6 kilometers. Take the Zemmer turnoff and follow signs from Zemmer toward Schleidweiler. The pool is located about 7 kilometers from the village of Schleidweiler and is on the left before entering Kordel.

The pool remains open until mid-September. For more information, call 06505 - 1308 or 06505 - 1286.

Manderscheid

Those who'd like to combine swimming with a visit to a local castle should opt for the Manderscheid pool. It's open from 10 a.m. to



Children and adults enjoy sun and water activities at the CASCADE pool.

6:30 p.m. daily. Adults pay 3.50 DM and children ages 3-16 are 2 DM. Ticket books are also available.

To get there, exit the Spangdahlem Air Base main gate, turn right and follow the signs to Manderscheid. Coming from Grosslittgen, take the first right on to Cusanus Strasse as you get into town. From there, follow the signs Hauptschule (school) and Freibad (pool). For more information, call 06572-4289.

Kyllburg

The Kyllburg pool is open daily from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Like the Kordel pool, it's located outside the town and in the forest.

Entry fee is 5 DM for adults and 2.50 DM for youth up to age 18. Ticket books and season cards are available at the pool. A season pass is 120 DM.

The swim complex holds about 3,000 people. A 57-meter long water slide, a children's bathing pool and a diving board are available. The pool closes Sept. 6.

To get there, turn right at the main gate when leaving the base and follow the signs to Oberkail. From Oberkail follow the signs to Kyllburg. Coming from Oberkail, go down a hill and over a bridge. Stay on this road until you go up a hill and get to the intersection. There will be a Kreissparkasse bank on your right. Turn left at the bank and follow the Freibad sign. For more information, call 06563-931179

Trier

Trier has two pools, the Nord and Sued pools.

Freibad Sued is the biggest pool in the region. It holds up to 10,000 visitors and features a 10-meter diving board.

It's open 10 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Monday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 6 or 7:30 p.m. on weekends, depending on the weather.

Entry fees are 5 DM for adults and 3 DM for youth up to age 16, students and military members with a valid identification card. Ticket books and family cards are also

The pool is located in Trier-South, Feyen, suburb of Trier. Call 0651-31501 for more

Freibad Nord is located on the right hand side on Zurmaiener Strasse (the road that gets you into Trier coming from the Autobahn). It's open 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday, and 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Thursday through Sunday.

Adults pay 5 DM and youth ages 6 to 18, students and military members pay 3 DM. Children up to age 6 get in free.

Freibad Nord holds 2,000 to 3,000 people. For more information, call 0651-25145.

Schweich

Schweich has a swimming and entertainment pool. This complex has a water surface of 1,375 meters and includes swimmer and non-swimmer sections, a separate diving pool with 1- and 3-meter diving boards, and three different water slides up to 6-meters long. One is a surface slide where up to five people can slide together right next to each other.

The Schweich pool has an integrated whirlpool and massage nozzles, waterfalls and a toddlers' pool.

The pool is open daily from 8 a.m. to 7 or 8 p.m. Entry is 5 DM for adults and 3 DM for children. Groups of 10 youngsters or more get a price reduction.

Ticket books and season cards are also available at the Schweich pool. For more information, call 06502-2497.

Bitburg

The Bitburg CASCADE outdoor pool complex is open daily from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., offering various pools and diving boards. Starting in September, the pool complex closes each Monday.

Hourly usage of the pool is an option; however, it's relatively expensive in comparison to the all-day price. Adult entry is 5 DM for one hour, 7.50 DM for two hours, 9.50 DM for three hours and 11 DM for four hours. An all-day ticket is 14 DM.

The youth entry price for ages 6 to 18 is 3.50 DM for one hour, 5 DM for two hours, 6 DM for three hours and 6.50 DM for four hours. An all-day ticket is 9 DM. Inquire about pre-paid cards, which cost less and are more convenient.

Call 06561-96830 for more information.



Photos by Staff Sgt. Cindy You View of Leed's Castle from the garden. Touring the castle, visitors can see period weapons, armor and lavish furnishings designed for its royal owners.

Stroll through royal English gardens at Leed s

By Staff Sgt. Cindy York 52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office

Living in Europe offers a great opportunity to travel and see things most of our families and friends back home only dream about. Whether you like big cities, small communities, beaches, mountains or anything in between, you can usually find it within a short distance.

A couple of months ago, I decided to go to London for a long weekend. It was my first time to England and I was excited about going to see all the sites in the city – Big Ben, Harrod's, Kensington Palace, Harrod's, Buckingham Palace and did I mention, Harrod's? There's so much to do in London, I never considered going outside the city for sightseeing – until I got there.

I saw a pamphlet on the most gorgeous castle I'd ever seen, Leed's Castle, in Maidstone, Kent. The pictures were so beautiful I had to go. I wasn't disappointed.

Leed's Castle was built nearly 900 years

ago and has been a royal residence for six of England's medieval queens, a palace of Henry VIII and a retreat for many powerful and influential people. Today, you can tour the castle and its gardens, along with taking part in various entertainment and events throughout the year.

Dubbed "The loveliest castle in the world", it's located on an island, surrounded by a golf course and an aviary, along with some of the most beautiful landscaping I've ever seen.

Getting to the castle from London is very easy. You can buy your ticket for the train rides to and from Bearsted station, the short bus ride to and from the train station to the castle and entrance into the castle at any train station in London.

If you're planning a trip to England and would like more information on Leed's Castle, feel free to call me at 452-5244, or check out their website at www.leeds-castle.co.uk.



Enjoy the scenic pathway from the castle's visitor's parking area, which is about two-thirds of a mile long. Buses to the castle are available for those who prefer not to walk.



Out and about

- ■Enjoy a local festival in Herforst this weekend, offering a festival tent, musical entertainment and amusement rides Saturday through Monday.
- ■Listen to pop or rock music Saturday at the Lorely Open-Air Festival. On schedule are No angels, Glashaus, Orange Blue, Jennifer Davids, Ayman, Phil Lovell and Cappucino.
- ■"Back to the 80's" features music and themes from the 1980's Saturday at the Koblenz Circus Maximus.
- ■Enjoy the 10th International artist, juggler and trickster festival Saturday and Sunday at the Koblenz Altstadt or old city.
- ■Shop at a flea market Sunday in front of the Trier-Zewen Extra Market; inside

- and outside the Machern Cloister, located near the Mosel town of Zeltingen-Rachtig and in front of the Konz E Center Market.
- ■See the popular Open-Air Mosel operettas at 9 p.m. Saturday and Sunday in the Zeltingen market place.
- ■Meet with the Eifel Wanderers Volksmarching Club, Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. for dinner or at 7 p.m. for a social gathering at the Metterich "Zum Stein" gasthaus. This is a good opportunity to meet new people, learn what the European tradition is all about and sign up for trips to Holland, Austria, the Czech Republic and more. Visit the club's website at http://eifelwanderers.jumpoutdoors.com Call Dave Westwood for more information at 06561-18758.
- ■A jazz concert by the Katrin Scherer Quartett takes place at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, inside the Trier Brunnenhof courtyard, located near the Porta Nigra.
- ■Children's entertainmet takes place every Thursday until Aug. 9 at the Koerperich GaytalPark Environmental and Adventure Center. Events start at 3 p.m. Entry is 5 DM per child. For more information, call 06566-96930 between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. or go to www.gaytalpark.de.
- ■The Bitburg Polizei will host an Open House and street festival Aug. 11 on Erdorfstrasse. A variety of entertainment is scheduled. Details will be printed in an upcoming issue of the Eifel Times.
- ■Reserve your ticket now to see Thomas Schwab and band performing one of their highlight rock and pop summer night performances, Aug. 12 at the Trier Amphitheater. The event starts at 8 p.m. and tickets typically sell fast. For more information or tickets, call 06531-94407.
- ■Listen to a concert by Fairground at 9 p.m. Aug. 3 in Zeltingen. For more information, go to www.fairground-info.de.
- ■The Dudeldorf sports club Mixery-Caribic-Night takes place Aug. 17, featuring the Gogo Girls, a giant foam cannon and a Caribean cocktail bar. Entry is 8 DM.
- ■Attend 'Hahn in Motion,' featuring a variety of first-class entertainment in the air

- and on the ground, Aug. 18-19. Details about the event will be printed in an upcoming edition of the Eifel Times.
- ■Get ready for the 2001 Wittlich pigburners festival Aug. 17-20. More information will be printed in the Eifel Times.
- ■People interested in joining a Linux users group based in Geilenkirchen, Germany, should contact Chris Bragg at chris@gklug.org or visit the group's Web site at http://gklug.org.
- ■People interested in playing paintball games each Saturday should contact Morgan Bowker at morgan@topsurf.com or call 06568-93063.



Community Mailbox

Vacation Bible School

The Spangdahlem Air Base Chapel seeks volunteers to help with Vacation Bible School 9 a.m. to noon Aug. 6-10. Children ages 4 years to sixth grade are invited to attend. Sign up with the Spangdahlem AB chapel during the week or at both chapels on weekends. Call Fran Lange at 06575-959857, Donna Coker at 06561-948983 or the base chapel at 452-6711 to register.

Children's theater news

- ■Open auditions for the Missoula Children's Theater group presentation, "Beauty Lou and the Country Beast," take place 9:45 a.m. to noon Aug. 6 in the Spangdahlem Air Base Community Activities Center. Youth ages 5-18 are eligible. Play performances take place at 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. Aug. 11 in the center.
- ■The Missoula Children's Theater group seeks a pianist to accompany rehearsals and two play performances. Hours are noon to 2:30 p.m. Aug. 8, 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Aug. 9 and 10, and noon to 9 p.m. Aug. 11. The position may have a contract for compensation. Call Cravin Ham or Jake Jacobs at 452-7381 or 452-7260.
- ■A free children's and adult workshop teaching theatrical fundamentals takes place 6-6:45 p.m. Aug. 10. Register for the class by Aug. 6 at the base community activities center.

Family support center news

■A deployed family day to Eifel Park takes place Sunday. Family members of military or civilian members TDY for more than 30 days at the time of the event are invited. Register in person at either family support center. People need to bring a copy of the TDY orders to register.

Education office news

■Applications for spouse tuition assistance for Term 1 (Aug. 20 through Oct. 12) are available in the education office,



Staff Sgt. Pamela Pope

Mmmm ... doughnuts!

Members of the 52nd Operations Support Squadron Booster Club sell Krispy Kreme doughnuts at the Spangdahlem Air Base commissary July 16. The Alabama Air National Guard flew in the sweet cargo while on their way to the base to perform refueling missions and support the wing during an Operational Readiness Inspection. A distributor in Birmingham, Ala., donated 250 dozen doughnuts to help support squadron functions.

building 192, and in the Bitburg Annex post office. Deadline to apply is today.

Call the base education office at 452-6063 for more information.

- ■City Colleges of Chicago, Europe, changes its operating hours to 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 2-4:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 2-4:30 p.m. Friday. It closes the last Friday of each month. Testing takes place at 4:30 p.m. Monday and Wednesday, and noon Thursday. For more information, call 452-7558
- ■The University of Maryland University College offers early childhood development, emergency medical technician and criminal justice classes. For times and dates, call LIMIIC at 452-6637

Project Kidcare

Sponsored by the Spangdahlem Base Exchange and the 52nd Security Forces Squadron, parents can have their children's photo and fingerprints taken 1-4 p.m. Aug. 11 at the store. For more information, call Teresa Gaskins, BX manager, at 452-7017.

OCSC coffee

The Officers and Civilians Spouses Club holds its last coffee of the summer at 9:30 a.m. Wednesday in the Spang Club. For more information, e-mail lacyfamily@tonline.de

Top Three

The Spangdahlem Air Base Top Three Council meets at 3 p.m. Aug. 8 in the Saber Club. For more information, call Master Sgt. James Rosel at 452-6112.

MOPS barbeque

The Mothers of Preschoolers and Protestant Women of the Chapel barbeque takes place 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday at the Spangdahlem Air Base picnic area near the child development center. Participants are asked to bring a side dish. For details, call Darla Kelly at 06561-683677.

SSEMC meeting

The Spangdahlem Spouses and Enlisted Members Club meets at 6 p.m. Aug. 8 in the Saber Club. For reservations, call Sue Sweeney at 06565-942245 or Misty Tovar at 06575-959369.

Gospel event

Gospel Extravaganza 2001 takes place at 3:30 p.m. Aug. 11 in the Bitburg Annex Chapel. Rehearsals take place 6:30-8:30 p.m. Aug. 7-10 in the same location. For more information, call 452-6711.

Night out

The King Citadel Military Lodge holds a "ladies night out" 5 to 10 p.m. Aug. 19 in the Saber Club. Dinner is free for women, military or civilian, and men pay \$15. For details, call Keena Parish at 0177-4969757.

Postal appointments

People who need to mail five or more boxes can call the Spangdahlem Air Base Post Office for appointments at 452-7182 or 452-7195 and ask to speak to the finance section. Appointments are available 9-10 a.m. Monday through Friday.

Bulldog cookbook

The Spangdahlem Middle School Parent, Teacher and Student Association accepts favorite family recipes for the Bulldog cookbook, which will be available for purchase in autumn. E-mail recipes to SMS_PTSA@hotmail.com throughout the summer. Call Mia Checkley at 06565-933303 for more information.

School bus transportation

The Eifel school bus office reminds parents that students who ride buses to school must have a new pass for 2001/2002.

All students who are registered with the schools before Aug. 3 should receive an information package with the passes in the mail by Aug. 17. Incoming people who register children after Aug. 3, need to stop by the school bus office to register. People need to bring a copy of Defense Department Form 600, "School Registration," with them.

The office is located in building 459 on the Spangdahlem Elementary School grounds. For details, call 452-5368 or 06565-61-5368